GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1543
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
LICENSE FOR QUALITY OF IRON ORE
Maharia Shri Subhash

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently issued licenses to check the quantity and quality of iron-ore reserves;

(b) if so, the details of licenses issued company-wise and State and Union Territory-wise, till date;

(c) whether there is any difference between prospecting license and rate of development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a)&(b) : The quantity and quality of mineral can be ascertained by means of prospecting of an area for which State Governments grant prospecting licences (PL). The Central Government accords prior approval to the State Governments for grant of PL for iron ore and other minerals listed in the First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act). During 1.4.2004 to 31.10.2007, Central Government`s prior approval has been conveyed on 73 proposals received from various State Governments for grant of prospecting licence for iron ore. The company-wise, State-wise details are available in the website of Ministry of Mines (http://www.mines.nic.in).

(c)&(d): As per the definition given in the MMDR Act, 1957 `Prospecting licence` means a licence granted for the purpose of undertaking prospecting operations. As per definition given in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, `Development` means the driving of an opening to, or in an ore-body or seam or removing overburden or unproductive or waste materials as preparatory to mining or stoping.